

# From the Upper Chamber



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## Report for Monday, January 28, 2008

The sixth day of the 2008 legislative session was called to order by Lieutenant Governor **Casey Cagle**.

Senator **Don Balfour** of the 9<sup>th</sup> stated that the journal had been read and was found to be correct.

Senate Bills 359-366 and Senate Resolution 733 were read for the first time and assigned to committees.

After the morning roll call, Sen. **Ed Harbison** of the 15<sup>th</sup> led the Senate in the Pledge of Allegiance. He then introduced the *Chaplain of the Day*, Dr. **Marshall S. McGill**, senior pastor of Kingdom Metropolitan Worship Center in Columbus, who led the Senate in the daily devotional.

Sen. **Seth Harp** of the 29<sup>th</sup> took the rostrum to introduce the *Doctor of the Day*, Dr. **Mike Hagues** of Columbus.

Sen. **David Shafer** of the 48<sup>th</sup> took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to discuss two measures he has sponsored. The first is a resolution that recommends Grady adopt a health benefits plan that encourages its employees to use the hospital as their primary source of healthcare. The second measure is a bill that would require the state of Georgia to divest its holdings in companies involved in trade with the Sudanese government, due to the violent attacks in Darfur.

Sen. **Emanuel Jones** of the 10<sup>th</sup> took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to speak to his resolution commending Sergeant-at-Arms **Matthew Hill** on his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday and years of dedicated service to the Senate.

Sen. **Vincent Fort** of the 39<sup>th</sup> took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to offer his support of Sen. **Shafer**'s resolution on Grady Hospital.

Sen. **Valencia Seay** of the 34<sup>th</sup> took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to encourage Senators to participate in the American Heart Association's National Wear Red Day, a campaign to raise awareness of heart disease in women, on Friday, February 1.

Sen. **Nan Orrock** of the 36<sup>th</sup> took the well on a Point of Personal Privilege to encourage the Senate to consider the Georgia Hospital Association's recommendations for healthcare funding in Georgia.

SR 726-735 were then read and adopted.

The clerk read the report of the Senate Rules Committee, recommending the Senate vote to override the Governor's veto of House Bill 529.

The clerk then read HB 529, which recognizes the Senate Budget and Evaluation Office in Georgia code.

President Pro Tempore **Eric Johnson** of the 1<sup>st</sup> moved to override the Governor's veto of HB 529, then took the well to address the bill.

Sen. **Steve Thompson** of the 33<sup>rd</sup> took the well to speak in support of the override but encouraged the Senate and House of Representatives to hold off on future veto overrides.

The motion to override veto number 25 of HB 529 passed by a vote of 47 to 7.

Following the announcements, Majority Leader **Tommie Williams** of the 19<sup>th</sup> moved the Senate stand adjourned until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 29.

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